

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Reasoning for decision to continue with the upgrade of units
Date: Saturday, 11 May 2019 7:47:24 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
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Hi [REDACTED] I'll follow up on the response and have that back to you ASAP on Monday.

[REDACTED]
Acting Senior Executive Director Youth Justice
Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women

On 11 May 2019, at 5:52 pm, [REDACTED] wrote:

Good afternoon [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
I am following up seeking a response to the below email sent to you both dated 18 April 2019. I am advised that no response has yet been received from you.
Given this and the concerns of OPG in relation to these matters and when considering the length of time that has already passed since the original email was sent to you, could I ask to please seek a response by COB 14 May 2019.
Thank you for your assistance in this matter.
Kindest Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Director Community Visitor Program | Office of the Public Guardian
Level 16, State Law Building, 50 Ann Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO BOX 13554, George Street QLD 4003
T: [REDACTED] | M: [REDACTED] | F: [REDACTED]
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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 18 April 2019 6:05 PM
To: [REDACTED]
<[REDACTED]>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Reasoning for decision to continue with the upgrade of units

Good afternoon [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
A matter has been escalated to me today for follow up with you both. It relates to the decision of your department to continue with an upgrade at the Youth Detention Centre whilst young people remain for extended periods in watch houses (despite the associated legislation indicating that they should be housed in a youth detention centre.)
As a result, could you confirm that this is accurate and if so, could I request please your reasoning surrounding the continuation of the upgrade to the units of the detention centre at this time when at the same time I am advised that you are at 20 beds down additionally due to

damage and other factors. Further, details surrounding the timeframes for the works would be helpful also.

It has been raised to me that individuals such as [REDACTED] (who is 13 and who has already been detained in a watch house for 3 weeks) and [REDACTED] who is still detained at BCWH and is forced to wear a suicide smock are being significantly disadvantaged in comparison to youths at a detention centre as a result of this decision.

In order to support the function of the Community Visitors and in line with information that would be reviewed regularly by Community Visitors in youth detention centres and other prescribed locations that we visit, would it also be possible please to organise to regularly receive weekly information from the Watch House regarding the following:

- <!--[if !supportLists]-->•<!--[endif]-->Self-harm
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->•<!--[endif]-->Suicide ideation, threats attempts
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->•<!--[endif]-->Use of force
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->•<!--[endif]-->Property damage (given this results in strip search)
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->•<!--[endif]-->Hostage
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->•<!--[endif]-->Serious injury
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->•<!--[endif]-->Any other incidents of a significant or serious nature

We are currently concerned with the difference in reporting and the availability of information that would be provided if young people were being detained as intended through the legislation in detention centres as opposed to when these children are being placed in a watch house.

There is a distinct difference currently between QPS reporting and that of the Detention Centre and this relates both to the individual definitions of the same issues for young people and also to requirements surrounding what police need to report in comparison to that of Youth Justice. Can you also if possible let me know how this is being reported through ROGS and other Commonwealth data collection statistics relating to Youth Justice for the State so that I understand the processes for this during this period.

Availability of this data and the records associated directly support Community Visitors being able to fulfill their roles and to ascertain the appropriate advocacy and resolution that is required and support processes such as complaints. Without availability regularly I am very concerned that it is directly impacting the rights of the young people placed in the watchhouses. With this in mind, information from you surrounding these issues would be greatly appreciated to support us in our role and to ensure we are fulfilling our functions in an informed way to support the young people in these systems.

Information at your earliest advice would be greatly appreciated.

[REDACTED] may be contacted in my absence over the Easter Period or [REDACTED] or on the email above.

Thanks for your assistance.

Kindest Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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T [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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